Maintenance of Bodh Gaya

4405. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item published in the Times of India on 17th January, 2001 under the caption "Bodh Gaya neglected: UNESCO";

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto; and

(c) what steps are proposed to be taken to address the problems raised in the news-item in order to ensure proper maintenance of Bodh Gaya as a seat of cultural and religious hertiage of India?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The UNESCO expert visited Bodh Gaya to assess the case for being considered as a World Heritage Site and his report in this regard is not yet available to the Government of India. The maintenance of Maha Bodhi Temple at Bodh Gaya however is looked after by the Temple Management Committee which has the "District Magistrate of Gaya as its Chairman."

Poor stationery used in Government Offices

4406. SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state·

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "poor stationery obliterating records" appeared in the Hindustan Times, dated 16th February, 2001;

(b) if so, the details of the points brought out in the news-item and the reaction of Government thereto;

(c) the measures taken to ensure that BIS approved paper and ink is sold to the Government Departments by the approved agencies; and